



UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY
WASHINGTON

August 2, 1961

OFFICE OF
THE DIRECTOR

~~SECRET~~

8 AUG 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Secretary of State

SUBJECT: USIA Berlin Program

The following proposals were put forth at the Berlin Steering Committee meeting. It was agreed that you would take them up with Ed Murrow in Paris.

1. A worldwide rally of free men would be organized in Berlin, scheduled for September 30, the anniversary of the end of the air lift. This is the only significant date coming up in the immediate future upon which to peg such an event. The rally would be staged along the general theme that "the freedom of all men is at stake in Berlin". Democratic leaders from around the world would be invited. The invitations would come either from a non-governmental "Freedom Committee" in Berlin, the West Berlin government, or the West German government. The United States would not have an obvious hand in the invitations or in the transportation of the leaders. We, of course, would send a distinguished delegation, perhaps headed by former President Harry S. Truman.

2. September 30 would be labelled Berlin Freedom Day around the world and speeches, meetings, and rallies would be held to coincide with the principal rally in Berlin.

3. Prominent Berliners and some recent, carefully-chosen, refugees from East Germany would be sent to key countries of the world at the same time. They would be principal speakers and guests at Berlin Freedom Day rallies.

4. The Attorney General suggested the formation of a private group of approximately fifty Americans to rally worldwide support for Berlin. The group would consist of leaders in education, business,

State Department review completed

~~SECRET~~

- 2 -

labor (viz Irving Brown, European Representative of the AFL-CIO). They would travel to key foreign countries with the aim of persuading and pressuring their counterparts to stimulate favorable public opinion on Berlin. This group would be organized and directed by USIA.

Donald M. Wilson
Acting Director

CC: The Honorable
Robert F. Kennedy
Attorney General

Mr. Allen Dulles, Director
Central Intelligence Agency

General Maxwell Taylor
Military Representative of the President

General Lyman L. Lemnitzer, Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

Mr. McGeorge Bundy
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Charles A. Sullivan
Special Assistant to the
Secretary of the Treasury

WNC 3 | 056W,81

WNC # 5136H,81

~~SECRET~~

ER

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Duties

Copies of the attached have been sent to
DD/P, COP, C/EE, and Chief, IO.

AND/WS

gk
JSE (7 August 61)
(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)